

ELLA S. CLASSEN.

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JANUARY 15, 1897.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. HURLEY, from the Committee on War Claims, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 9989.]

The Committee on War Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 9989) entitled "A bill for the relief of Ella S. Claussen, widow of Peter J. Claussen, deceased, beg leave to submit the following report, and recommend that said bill do pass with amendments.

The records of the War Department show that Peter J. Classen (also born as Peter J. Claussen) was mustered in as colonel One hundred and thirty-second Regiment New York Volunteers September 18, 1862, on a commission as such issued for him September 18, 1862, to rank from September 10, 1862, and was mustered out with the field and staff of that regiment June 29, 1865.

Under the provisions of the act of Congress approved June 3, 1884, and the acts amendatory thereof, he is considered by the War Department as commissioned to the grade of colonel One hundred and thirty-second Regiment New York Volunteers, to take effect from September 11, 1862, the date of completion of his regiment.

The evidence before the committee shows that Peter J. Claussen was appointed colonel and acting inspector-general of the Empire Brigade, under General Orders, No. 1, by Gen. F. B. Spinola, commanding said Empire Brigade, on the 21st day of June, 1862, and served in that capacity from that date to September 18, 1862, on which latter date he was mustered into the service of the United States as colonel of the One hundred and thirty-second Regiment New York Volunteers; that he never received any pay or compensation for such duty and services from either the State of New York or the United States.

From June 21, 1862, to September 18, 1862, when Colonel Claussen was mustered into service under his commission, he seems, from the evidence and official orders, to have been recognized in his rank as colonel, and, in the opinion of your committee, is justly entitled to pay as colonel from June 21, 1862, to September 18, 1862.

Your committee recommend the passage of the bill with the following amendments:

Strike out "Claussen" wherever it appears in the bill and insert in lieu thereof "Classen."